

Serial No.: 10/516,464
Docket No.: 28951.2183

REMARKS

Claims 16-30, as amended, remain herein.

Applicants believe that this amendment places this application fully in condition for allowance, and surely places it in better condition for any appeal. Accordingly, entry of this amendment and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview of November 6, 2006. In that interview, applicants' representative argued to the Examiner that the prior art fails to disclose a circuit that electrically connects the card receiver and the compact memory card, as claimed by applicants. It was also argued that Eisele does not disclose a card adapter having a first connector connecting the card adapter to the card receiver, as claimed by applicants. Eisele, being a disk, interfaces with the disk drive magnetically through a read-write head, not through a connector or through circuitry.

At the interview, applicants' representative used samples of the prior art device and applicants' claimed invention to make the above arguments to the Examiner. After viewing the samples, the Examiner stated that he understood the arguments and would consider them in detail when presented with an Amendment and after an additional prior art search.

1. Applicants have amended claims 16, 26 and 28 mooted the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

2. Claims 16 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Eisele et al. U.S. Patent 6,089,459.

Eisele discloses a smart diskette device that is adaptable to receive a card. Eisele's diskette device is adapted to receive a mini-chip card 118; see Eisele Figure 11. Eisele's mini-chip card 118 is inserted orthogonally to the direction of insertion of the diskette into the disk drive. However, Eisele's main card is a diskette, not an adapter for a smaller card. Chip card 118 is coupled via a wire to processor 116 that is in diskette 1171; see Eisele's Figure 11a and 11b. Eisele's diskette device communicates with a disk drive read/write head by means of a magnetic transducer 510; see Eisele col. 9, lines 62-67. Eisele's diskette device communicates with the disk drive magnetically only. Thus, Eisele does not disclose a circuit board within the adapter body for electrically connecting the card receiver and the compact memory card, as claimed by applicants.

Still further, Eisele's diskette device has a connector 119 for connecting minichip card 118 to the diskette device. Since Eisele's diskette device communicates magnetically with the disk drive through the use of magnetic transducer 510 and a read/write head, Eisele therefore does not disclose a first connector for electrically connecting the card adapter to the card receiver, as claimed by applicants.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Eisele does not disclose all elements of applicants' claimed invention and therefore is not a proper basis for a §102 rejection of applicants' claims. Nor is there any disclosure or teaching in Eisele which would have suggested applicants' claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in this art. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection, and allowance of claims 16 and 25, are respectfully requested.

3. Claims 17-24 and 26-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Eisele and Mizutani et al. U.S. Patent 5,777,275.

Claims 17-24, 26 and 27, which depend upon claims 16 and 25, respectively, and claims 28-30, are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 16 and 25.

Mizutani does not disclose what is lacking in Eisele. Mizutani discloses a bendable circuit board, but not a circuit board within an adapter body for electrically connecting the card receiver and the compact memory card, nor a first connector for electrically connecting the card adapter to the card receiver, as claimed by applicants.


For all of the foregoing reasons, there is no disclosure or teaching in either of Eisele or Mizutani that would have suggested applicants' claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in this art. Further, there is no disclosure or teaching in either Eisele or Mizutani that would have suggested the desirability of combining any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or suggest applicants' claimed invention. Withdrawal of this rejection of claims 17-24 and 26-30, and allowance of the same are therefore respectfully requested.

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Accordingly, this application is now fully in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293 (Order No. 28971.2183). If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Roger W. Parkhurst, Reg. No. 25,177
Tyson Y. Winarski, Reg. No. 41,381

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Tel: 202-429-3000
Fax: 202-429-3902
RWP/TYW:mn1